

PATIENTS FLEE TO
WOODS AS FLAMES
LEVEL SANITARIUMFifty Driven Out in Wintry
Gale When Kensett Hall
Is Destroyed.TERRIFIED NEIGHBORS
BAR THEIR DOORSVictims of Mental and Nervous Dis-
orders Left in Scanty Attire, With-
out Food or Shelter.

TEN CARRIED OUT IN BEDS

Institution of Dr. Edward E. Smith, at
South Wilton, Conn., Costing \$75,000,
Lost Through Defective Flue.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

SOUTH NORWALK, Conn., Sunday.—Fifty patients, many of them suffering from mental and nervous disorders, were panic-stricken this afternoon when fire swept through Kensett Hall, a large private sanitarium of Dr. Edward E. Smith, in South Wilton, five miles north of here.

Ten of the patients who were confined to beds were carried from the burning building by attendants. The others fled in terror and ran screaming into the woods. Although scantily clad they remained in hiding, and for a time it was feared more than a dozen had perished in the flames. Dr. Smith said to-night his attendants had brought in every patient. Those seriously ill are located temporarily in a small isolation hospital and the others are being housed in a bowling alley. Those whose condition will permit it will be moved to-morrow to sanitariums in Stamford. It is feared that shock and exposure to the zero weather may have serious results for some.

Flee to the Woods.

The condition of the fifty patients is pitiable. When the fire started the thermometer was at zero and a high wind was blowing. There was no time to provide clothing. Those able to get out without assistance dashed out into the snow, and many in their terror ran into the woods. After they were rounded up those who were sheltered in the bowling alley were chilled and there was no fire to warm them, no way to prepare even warm coffee and no utensils to serve food. Neither was there any way of providing warm covering, as everything in the sanitarium had been destroyed.

Residents of the countryside, who have been afraid of the patients at the sanitarium, as they never went abroad without an attendant, barred their doors and windows when they learned the place was on fire and the patients were running loose. Not until late to-night, after physicians who went from here to Dr. Smith's assistance had given assurance that all the patients were accounted for, did the residents near by proffer assistance in the way of food, clothing and fuel.

The fire started from a defective flue and the entire roof was burning when a neighbor passing by the sanitarium at half-past two o'clock gave an alarm. Dr. Smith summoned his twenty attendants and directed the removal of the ten patients confined to their beds. Some of these were carried down from the third story. Before the last one was carried out the entire upper floor was in flames. The attendants then attached the hose to the water tower, but the fire had gained such headway in the high wind that efforts to check it were useless.

Sanitarium Cost \$75,000.

A chemical engine and ten firemen from South Norwalk arrived when the building was blazing like a bonfire. The firemen tried to chop away a wooden partition leading from the main building to Dr. Smith's cottage. They ripped and tore at it until the heat drove them away, and then they began carrying valuable paintings and books and furniture from the cottage. Again they were driven off and the fire swept across to the cottage and leveled it.

Kensett Hall was a four story structure, partly brick and frame. It was built twenty years ago on the top of a great hill by William B. Gunning, of New York. When Dr. Smith bought the estate, ten years ago, he remodelled the main building. With its furnishings it represented an outlay of \$75,000 and was insured for \$38,000. Nothing is left to-night of the main building, and Dr. Smith's cottage but smoldering debris.

Dr. Smith said to-night he would find another site for a sanitarium, but meanwhile he would have to move his patients to Stamford or wherever he could find shelter for them, as he had no means for feeding and caring for them properly. In spite of his loss, he was congratulating himself that the fire started at the top of the building and not in the lower floors and thereby averted all danger of loss of life.

Many residents of New York have been treated at Kensett Hall, among them Mrs. "Tom" Pierce, wife of the wealthy sportsman, who left after court proceedings in her behalf had been instituted by Miss Adele Ritchie, an actress.

JAIL'S REAR DOOR HANDY EXIT.

Alleged Gamblers, Prosecuted by Girl
Reformer of Illinois, Skip Over
State Line.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

WEST HAMMOND, Ill., Sunday.—Miss Virginia Brooks, self-chosen regenerator of West Hammond, has a new puzzle to work out. Four alleged gamblers were arrested to-day and placed in jail, the front door of which was barred securely. Immediately the prisoners escaped through a rear exit and found asylum across the State line in Indiana. Reformers who are supporting Miss Brooks charge that certain West Hammond politicians were in collusion with the prisoners.

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Is Placed To-Day

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Man Bitten by
Rabid Dog to
Save ChildrenAlready Wounded, He Holds Animal
with Hand While Boys and
Girls Reach Safety.

In an effort to shield a group of children from the attacks of a dog in Bronx Park yesterday afternoon Oscar De Rochemont was bitten in the leg. Mr. De Rochemont was hurried to the office of Dr. A. C. Butts, Jr., where his wound was cauterized. A physician of the Board of Health said later that in his opinion the dog had the rabies.

Mr. De Rochemont was walking along Bronx Park avenue soon after dinner and had approached Walker avenue, when he heard a number of children screaming and saw them running away from a dog. The animal was snapping aimlessly at everything and his head seemed covered with foam. The children kept ahead of the beast. Breaking into the general scramble of the children, Mr. De Rochemont got close enough to the dog to give him a powerful kick. Quick as a wink the dog had him by the right leg and had sunk his teeth into the flesh a little below the knee.

Mr. De Rochemont grabbed the cur by the scruff of the neck and held him away from him and then threw him quite a distance as he felt the pain from the wound in his leg.

The screams of the children attracted Policeman Edward J. O'Connor, who took up the chase. O'Connor grabbed an empty barrel and after an number of trials he got the dog under it. With considerable more trouble the dog was carted to the Bronx Park police station.

Dr. Louis Grossman, of the Board of Health, said that in his opinion the dog had the rabies. He ordered him shot.

Mr. De Rochemont, who is an undertaker, lives at No. 428 Bronx Park avenue. He said there last night that his wound was not especially painful, but that he didn't like the fact that the dog had been pronounced rabid. The police made inquiries in the neighborhood to ascertain if any children had been bitten but could find none.

Many Hurt as Car
Dashes Into PoleJumps Rails on Hill on the Midland
Railway of Staten Island—Three
Receive Broken Legs.

Many passengers on a crowded trolley car of the Concord Division of the Staten Island Midland Railway, were hurled violently about, receiving cuts, bruises and broken limbs, last night when the car ran off the track at Canal street, Stapleton, and crashed into a telegraph pole.

THE INJURED.

Born, Joseph, No. 61 Osgood avenue, Concord, left leg broken and lacerations of body.

Goodacre, Frederick, of Concord place, Concord, left leg broken and possible internal injuries.

Jenkins, John, No. 1,705 Lafayette avenue, Bronx, this city; right leg broken and internal injuries.

Bernard Siegler was the conductor of the car and Peter Materson the motor-man. The car was filled with passengers, many of them being young girls going home with their escorts.

There is a small hill at Canal street, and when the car was coming down the brakes did not seem to work and the car plunged ahead at increased speed.

Several of the women, alarmed at the speed of the car, screamed just about the time the wheels left the rails. The car jumped to the side of the road and crashed into a telegraph pole. Nearly every window in the car was broken by the impact and the pole broke and fell upon the car.

Then began a scramble to get out of the car. The three with broken legs were left behind. Most of the injured were attended at a drug store near by.

MEDICINE MEN OF THE MIDDLE AGES.—Dr. James J. Walsh in a most interesting article shows once more that there is nothing new under the sun; that much of the medical and surgical practice that we think modern was practiced in sedentary days. Illustrated letter in next Sunday's NEW YORK HERALD.

Attorney for Mortimer L. Schiff's Imprisoned
Valet Demands That the Grand Jury InvestigateFischer-Hansen Says He Has
Been Slandered in
Strange Case.MYSTERY NOT TO BE
SOLVED AT ALBANYOne of Banker's Array of Lawyers
Opposing Clemency Will Talk Pri-
vately to Governor's Counsel.

SECRET HEARING IS GRANTED

Police Record of Brandt Is Declared To
Be False by Those It
Mentions.

Charging that he has been slandered, Carl Fischer-Hansen, who acted as counsel for Foulke Engelbrecht Brandt, Mortimer L. Schiff's valet, who was sentenced five years ago by Judge Rosalsky to thirty years' imprisonment, yesterday forwarded a letter to the Grand Jury demanding an investigation of the facts of his connection with the case.

At the same time it developed that the police department will be called upon for an explanation of its investigation into the antecedents of Brandt before the latter's conviction. In the affidavit used in the case, Lieutenant Woodbridge named a dozen persons who accused Brandt of all kinds of crimes ranging from forgery to petty larceny. Many of these persons yesterday denied they ever heard of Brandt.

No publicity will be given to the case when Mr. Schiff opposes Brandt's application for clemency in Albany to-morrow. To avoid any chance of publicity of the hidden details of the mysterious case there will be no public hearing, and a precedent has been established by Governor Dix, who has instructed his assistant legal adviser to confer privately with one of Mr. Schiff's eminent counsel to-morrow.

In his communication to the Grand Jury Fischer-Hansen states that after the receipt by him of a letter from Brandt, which inclosed a missive addressed to a woman member of Mr. Schiff's family, he at once turned it over to Judge Rosalsky, and that at a secret conference between Judge Rosalsky, Charles C. Nott, then Assistant District Attorney; Howard S. Gans, counsel for Mortimer L. Schiff in the prosecution of Brandt, and himself his suggestion that Brandt's sentence be vacated and he be allowed to enter a new plea was ignored by the Court and opposed by both Mr. Nott and Mr. Gans.

Mr. Gans Denies.

This statement was denied last night by Mr. Gans, who said that the subject matter of Brandt's letter to the woman was not discussed by those at the conference. District Attorney Charles Whitman said last night that he would forward his report on the Brandt application for pardon to Governor Dix to-day, but that he would not go to Albany unless the Governor requested his presence at the hearing to-morrow.

Howard S. Gans admits that the letter written by Brandt to a member of Mr. Schiff's family after his conviction is in his possession and that he received it from Judge Rosalsky at the conference referred to by Fischer-Hansen in his letter to the Grand Jury. He was not sure whether he would turn the letter over to Governor Dix for use at the inquiry in Albany to-morrow.

States His Position.

In his letter to the Grand Jury Fischer-Hansen denies that he was in any way implicated in the matter except as attorney for Brandt when he was indicted on a charge of burglary.

"Just before the hearing given Brandt in Judge Rosalsky's court," said Fischer-Hansen, "I was directed by Judge Rosalsky to appear for Brandt. Two days later I received a letter from Brandt asking me to act as his attorney, and in response to this letter I called upon him in the Tombs. I asked him for the facts in the case, but he refused to tell me anything, merely stating that 'it had been all fixed.'"

Admitted Part of Charge.

"His refusal to discuss his case with me as his counsel surprised me greatly, but all I could get out of him was the admission that he had been found with Mr. Schiff's etopkins in his hand and that he must have been guilty of the charge made against him."

"I appeared with him before Judge Rosalsky on the day of the sentence, without any more information than that. The sentence was thirty years in State's prison at hard labor. I never called upon Brandt in the Tombs after sentence was imposed, and saw him only once, when I called upon some one else in the prison. Brandt was walking behind a grating quietly smoking a cigarette."

"I spoke to him for about two minutes through the grating. I said to him, 'You are a cool customer, Brandt, to be smoking a cigarette with thirty years in prison ahead of you.' He replied, 'I'll be out in a little while, for it's all fixed.'"

"A few days after he had been sent to prison a client of mine named Ryan, who had been confined in the Tombs, handed me a letter which had been given to him by Brandt. I read the letter and gave it to Judge Rosalsky, and discussed the letter in conference with Judge Rosalsky, Mr. Gans and Mr. Mott, and this ended my connection with the case."

"Never in any of the interviews I had with Brandt did he or anybody else say or intimate that there was anything in his case but what appeared in the indictment. I knew nothing when I appeared for him, or while he was in the Tombs, beyond the fact that he was charged with and subsequently pleaded guilty to the crime alleged in the indictment. No hint or suggestion was ever made by him or anybody else regarding anything concerning his service or condition in the Schiff household."

Expected Freedom.

"I never since have heard from him, di-



CHARLES S. WHITMAN, FOULKE E. BRANDT

rectly or indirectly, nor have I ever been in communication, directly or indirectly, with any one who knew him. In fact, I first read of the new developments in the newspapers a few days ago."

Discussing his letter to the Grand Jury Fischer-Hansen said to a Herald reporter yesterday:—"I have been wrongfully alluded to in connection with this case. I sought in every way to get Brandt to make a statement regarding his guilt or innocence of the charge upon which he had been indicted, but he would not give me definite data. When I learned that he had been found in the Schiff home wearing a dressing gown belonging to Mr. Schiff and that he had smoked cigarettes with Mr. Schiff for an hour after his alleged attack upon Mr. Schiff I expressed surprise that he should have pleaded guilty to this charge of robbery."

"It's all right," Brandt said to me. "I shall be out in ten months and Mr. Schiff has promised to give me \$25,000 and send me back to Sweden, where I will open a large grocery store and deal with the nobility. But one condition has been imposed upon me, namely, I must plead guilty, and I did so."

Fischer-Hansen said that when he received a letter from Brandt inclosing a letter addressed to a member of Mr. Schiff's family he accidentally opened both letters at the same time. He was not aware at first that he had opened the letter addressed to the woman and made the discovery when he read the opening paragraph of the missive.

"I cannot understand why all this clamor is being raised to prevent Brandt's pardon," said Fischer-Hansen. "Why this bitterness against a man who is presumed merely to have stolen two stick pins and who already has served five years in prison for the crime?"

Report to Governor.

"How can the pardon of Brandt affect Mr. Schiff? Why is Mr. Gans so bitter in his denunciation of Brandt? These are questions which the Grand Jury is likely to ask, and it is to further the ends of justice that I have demanded a personal vindication at the hands of the Grand Jury, no matter how heavily the blow may fall upon the heads of others interested in this remarkable case."

District Attorney Whitman, when asked what steps he would take with regard to Fischer-Hansen's letter to the Grand Jury, said yesterday that he could not act on the matter until after his report reached Governor Dix.

Mr. Whitman declined to state what recommendations he purposed to make to the Governor, but from other sources it was learned that executive clemency would be recommended. It is also said that Mr. Whitman's report will be in the nature of a severe arraignment of many persons connected with the prosecution of Brandt, which resulted in the imposition of a sentence of thirty years on a nineteen-year-old boy for his first offense.

When Police Lieutenant Woodbridge was seen last night he said:—"I made a thorough investigation at the time, and I stand by every word of the affidavit that I made in 1907 of his record."

Threatened Man Slain as
Foe of Horse PoisonersLouis Blumenthal, Menaced by Ea-
side Band, and Who
Was to Have Been a Witness in Court To-Day, Is
Shot in Duel When Talking with Friends.

ASSASSIN, IN ESCAPING, WOUNDS ANOTHER

Death threats made by an organized band of horse thieves and horse poisoners against Louis Blumenthal, thirty-five years old, who had aided the police in their work and who was to have appeared in court to-day as a witness, were carried out last night by an unidentified man, who shot and almost instantly killed Mr. Blumenthal as he stood chatting with friends in the office of the livery stable of H. Whitkins, at Nos. 135 and 137 Division street.

Firing a third shot through a window as he fled, the slayer ran down Ludlow street, and in his flight shot, but only painfully wounded, Abraham Rosenzweig, thirty years old, of No. 8 Ludlow street, who, he apparently thought, was going to intercept him. The slayer escaped.

Mr. Blumenthal owned a blacksmith shop and lived with his wife and two children at No. 204 Madison street. Two years ago a stable owned by Mr. Whitkins was destroyed by an incendiary fire and thirty-five of his horses perished. It was then that Mr. Blumenthal joined in an effort to run down the incendiaries.

When living at No. 202 Henry street two months ago Mr. Blumenthal received several threatening letters and the last one contained a demand for \$300 or the alternative of having his home blown up. On the night of December 19, a bomb was exploded in the hallway. It did much damage to property, but Mr. Blumenthal and his wife and children escaped injury.

Several weeks ago the Blumenthal family moved to No. 204 Madison street. Mr. Blumenthal left his home at seven o'clock last night and went to the Whitkins livery stable. He met Mr. Whitkins and his son



RESIDENCE OF MORTIMER L. SCHIFF, No. 352 FIFTH AVENUE.



MORTIMER L. SCHIFF, JUDGE OTTO ROSALSKY

When told that many of those mentioned in the affidavit as having discharged Brandt for various reasons declared that they had never heard of him, he said that made no difference to him.

One of the first employers of Brandt given in the affidavit, was Ledyard C. Blair, of Blairsville, N. J., which is near Bernardsville. While in his employ Brandt was said to have decamped and \$25 belonging to servants was missed.

Never Heard of Him.

"I never heard of Brandt in my life," said Mr. Blair last night. "He never worked for me. I am almost positive. I do know that no servant ever left my house suddenly, taking money belonging to any of my servants. I employ about one hundred and fifty men and women about my place. Since the time Brandt is said to have worked for me I have changed both my butler and housekeeper. Brandt was never spoken of as having been about my place. Some of them would surely have remembered him at the time of his arrest, had he ever been here."

It was alleged in the affidavit that Brandt had worked four days for Mr. A.

G. Hodges, of No. 39 East Forty-ninth street, and that he was discharged for having obtained his position by fraudulent letters from Sampson & Nelson's employment bureau, No. 412 Fourth avenue.

"Brandt never was employed by me," said Mr. Hodges. "I don't know anything about him. I did not discharge a servant at the time mentioned."

Mrs. W. H. B. Hoffman, of No. 35 West Fifty-first street, was said to have employed Brandt, and although named by Johnson's Employment Bureau as being dishonest, she retained him and spoke well of him.

"I don't recollect ever having had any such man as Brandt in my house," said Fortich street, and that he left owing his landlady, Mrs. Loyd, \$2. She was said to have ordered him out of the house. There is a saloon at the address given, which is kept by Patrick Kenney, and he has lived there for ten years.

"You can't make it too positive," said Mr. Kenney, "that Mrs. Loyd never lived here at any time. I have personally known every tenant and I never heard of Brandt. Among other charges made by Woodbridge was that he had been informed by the C. A. Peterson Employment Bureau, of No. 384 Fourth avenue, 'that they never would recommend Brandt for any place, as they knew about his being dishonest and could not recommend him.'"

Investigation yesterday disclosed that no such employment bureau existed at the number stated by Woodbridge, that having been the number of a saloon for many years.

JUST HOW THE FACTS
WILL BE KEPT SECRETMr. Schiff's Eminent Counsel and the
Governor's Representative Will
Whisper to Each Other.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

ALBANY, N. Y., Sunday.—No matter how Governor Dix may decide on the application of Foulke Engelbrecht Brandt for executive clemency, it is almost certain now that the public will never know all of the truth in the case, nor why Mortimer L. Schiff has engaged such eminent attorneys as Alton B. Parker, Paul D. Cravath and Howard C. Gans in an effort to keep the man who was his valet in Clinton Prison for twenty-five years more.

To avoid any publicity the plan of having a hearing has been abandoned. Governor Dix did not want to take the responsibility of having a star chamber, and Judge Parker, Mr. Cravath and Mr. Gans were quite as adverse to permitting the public to know why they were urging the Governor to refrain from any action that will give the young man his freedom.

So, there will be no public hearing Tuesday, but on that day one of the counsel, probably Judge Parker, will appear before O. L. Potter as an assistant legal adviser to the Governor, who has charge of the pardon cases, and offer some of the reasons why Mr. Schiff wants Brandt to serve out his sentence of thirty years. It will be a man to man talk between Judge Parker and Mr. Potter, and will take place in the middle of the room, so that by no chance will any one listening at the keyhole get any information.

There is no precedent for a proceeding of this kind. No one around the Governor's office can remember when the pardon cases, and offer some of the reasons why Mr. Schiff wants Brandt to serve out his sentence of thirty years. It will be a man to man talk between Judge Parker and Mr. Potter, and will take place in the middle of the room, so that by no chance will any one listening at the keyhole get any information.

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NAMES JUDGES WHO
FREED 450 PERSONS
AFTER CONVICTIONMr. Waldo's Police Report for
1911 Contains a New and
Striking Feature.125 MURDERS, WITH
ONLY 13 CONVICTIONSComparison with London Shows a
Greater Percentage of Punish-
ment Than in New York.

FIXED POST IDEA A SUCCESS

Commissioner Tells of New Detective
School, Elimination of Politics
and Increased Efficiency.

London catches fifty-six per cent of its murderers and convicts one hundred per cent of those who go to trial. New York arrests eighty-four per cent of its murderers. Eighty per cent of New York's arrested murderers escape in the courts. Six hundred and eleven persons convicted of felonies in New York last year were freed in the courts by suspended sentences. Eleven thousand three hundred and seventy persons convicted in this city of misdemeanors last year were set free by the courts.

These are striking statistics of the annual report made to Mayor Gaynor by Rhinelander Waldo, Police Commissioner, and which was made public yesterday. Mr. Waldo makes no comment on the attitude of the courts. He presents the facts in tables of figures and summaries.

The Commissioner gives the names of all of the judiciary sitting in trials of criminal cases with tables showing the exact number of crimes of each kind in which each judge has suspended sentences.

These tables show that Judge Mulqueen in the Court of General Sessions suspended sentences last year in 125 cases of felonies; Judge Swann, 99; Judge Crain, 74; Judge Rosalsky, 61; Judge O'Sullivan, 48; Judge Foster, 39, and Judge Malone, 4.

Ninety-eight burglars found commiserating hearth on the bench which tried them, thirteen hold-up robbers were equally fortunate and 202 thieves convicted of grand larceny went free instead of to prison.

Petty Offenders Punished.

In striking contrast to the attitude of the courts toward persons convicted of violence and crimes against persons and property is the table of arrests and convictions by the motorcycle squad, the principal duty of which is to prevent violations of the ordinances governing the operation of automobiles. Of the 3,710 arrests in 1911 for such offenses there were convictions in 3,553 cases. Only 103 of the accused successfully defended themselves in court and fifty-five cases of this kind are still pending.

Commissioner Waldo takes an entirely new departure in this presenting officially the judicial identities associated with the leniency of the New York courts. His annual report also is remarkable for its brevity and terseness. Under the caption, "The Administration of Justice as Affecting the Enforcement of Law by the Police," he says:—"During 1911 there were 149 murders, of which 125 persons were arrested and seven committed suicide prior to police action. Not one has been executed for any of these murders. Only thirteen have been convicted."

"One man who was convicted of a most revolting murder, after a lapse of twenty months has not yet been executed." This refers to Albert H. Wolter, whose execution is set for to-day.

"A man who forcibly entered the apartment occupied by an aged broker," the report continues, "and murdered his victim was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment."

Window Evidence Reflected.

"In one instance a magistrate refused to issue a warrant on the ground that the evidence had been obtained by a policeman who merely saw the act by looking through a window, but was not in the room."

"In almost all cases where roulette wheels and other gambling apparatus have been seized in raids court orders were obtained requiring the return of the property to the gamblers."

"There has recently been inaugurated by several restaurants the custom of furnishing vaudeville shows for their patrons. These performances differ in many instances in no way from those being given at music halls and theatres. It is believed in the interest of public safety that these places should be required to take out licenses and conform to the fire and building laws enacted for protection of the public."

Special note is made in the Commissioner's report of the withdrawal by him from special duty of 1,014 policemen, which, he says, has increased the effective patrol force by just that number. He says:—"Elimination of these details not only saves the city approximately \$140,000 annually, but also removes one of the main incentives for political activity on the part of the uniformed members of the force, many of whom are naturally desirous of obtaining work which does not involve the long hours and strenuous duty of the regular policeman."

More Arrests for Grave Crimes.

Mr. Waldo in his report recalls the assumed office on May 23, 1911, reports the available force of his department, then at 10,395 officers and men, has not been increased.

During last year, he continues, arrests were made for felonies